

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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FM MCONSUL FRANKFURT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6919

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FRANKFUP 2238

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP

SUBJECT: CODEL KENNEDY

REF: STATE 069221

1. WE DISCUSSED WITH STAFF MEMBERS HUNTER AND KING POSSIBLE PROGRAMS FOR SENATOR AND MRS. KENNEDY DURING FOUR-HOUR STOPOVER IN FRANKFURT, APRIL 15. IN VIEW OF GERMAN LONG WEEKEND EASTER MONDAY LEGAL HOLIDAY, THEY RECOGNIZED THAT FORMAL SPEAKING APPEARANCE BEFORE GERMAN ORGANIZATION WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE AND THAT LIKELIHOOD OF ASSEMBLING WORTHWILE GROUP OF GERMAN LEADERS FOR INFORMAL GATHERING EXTREMELY LIMITED.

2. HUNTER AND KING RESPONDED AFFIRMATIVELY TO OUR SUGGEST THAT SENATOR VISIT NEARBY U.S. ARMY INSTALLATION TO VIEW RESULTS OF FRG-FINANCED BARRACKS REHABILITATION PROGRAM. WE MADE BRIEF VISIT TO THIRD ARMORED DIVISION HEADQUARTERS IN FRANKFURT TO SEE REGURBISHED BARRACKS AND PHOTOS OF HOW THEY LOOKED BEFORE. DIVISION COMMANDER, GEN. BURTON, SUGGESTED THAT HE COULD MEET CODEL ON ARRIVAL AT FRANKFURT AIRPORT 0800 APRIL 12 AND TAKE PARTY TO ELEMENT OF DIVISION IN FRIEDBURG BY HELICOPTER (WEATHER PERMITTING, OTHERWISE BY SEADAN) WHERE WORK STILL IN

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PROGRESS AND WHERE "BEFORE" AND "AFTER" CONTRAST

WOULD BE PRESENT. WE WOULD INVITE GERMAN AND AMERICAN PRESS TO COVER VISIT. CODEL COULD THEN RETURN TO AIRPORT BY HELICOPTER FOR 1220 DEPARTURE TO BUCHAREST.

3. WE BELIEVE CODEL VISIT TO BARRACKS UNDER REHABILITATION WOULD PROVIDE USEFUL OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICIZE THIS IMPORTANT FRG CONTRIBUTION TO MAINTENANCE OF U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN EUROPE AND TO PERSONAL WELFARE OF INDIVIDUAL SOLDIERS. HUNTER AND KING GAVE IMPRESSION THEY WOULD RECOMMEND THIS SUGGESTED PROGRAM TO SENATOR. WE WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION ASAP SO U.S. MILITARY AUTHORITIES CAN PROCEED WITH ARRANGEMENTS. FIFTH CORPS AND USAREUR HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF POSSIBLE VISIT.

4. WE UNDERSTAND FROM REFTEL THAT ONLY SENATOR AND MRS KENNEDY WOULD BE PRESENT FOR FRANKFURT STOPOVER. SEPARATE PROGRAM WOULD BE FEASIBLE FOR MRS KENNEDY (VISIT TO FRIEDBURG CASTLE, ETC.) IF DESIRED. PLEASE ADVISE.SULSER

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